

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action of April 12, 2005, which has been made FINAL, the Examiner first rejected Claims 1 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as being allegedly unpatentable over applicants' admitted prior art ("AAPA") in view of Sawyer (U.S. Patent No. 6,603,972 B1) (hereinafter "Sawyer"). Further in the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 2-5 and 29-32 as allegedly unpatentable over AAPA and Sawyer, as applied to Claims 1 and 28, in further view of Van Renesse (U.S. Patent No. 6,724,770) (hereinafter "Van Renesse").

The Examiner further objected to Claims 6-13 and 33-40 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitation of the base claim and any intervening claims.


The Examiner did further indicate that Claims 14-27 were allowable.

In this response, supplemental to applicants prior response submitted June 9, 2005, Applicants hereby cancel Claims 1-2 and 4 and incorporate the subject matter thereof in Claim 6, now amended, as the Examiner indicated that Claim 6 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The dependencies of Claims 3 and 5 have been changed commensurate with the amendment to Claim 6. Likewise, in this response, Applicants hereby cancel Claims 28-29 and 31 and incorporate the subject matter thereof in amended Claim 33 as the Examiner indicated that Claim 33 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The dependencies of Claims 30 and 32 have been changed commensurate with the amendment to Claim 33.

In view of the foregoing amendments commensurate with the Examiner's determination, and explanatory remarks, it is believed that Claims 6 and 33 are now patentable, as are all claims dependent thereon in view of their dependency. Claims 14-27 have already been indicated as allowable.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance, a notice of which is respectfully solicited. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with the Applicants' attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned, Applicants' attorney, at the following telephone number: (516) 742-4343.

Respectfully submitted,


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